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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,982	01/05/2001	Mohamed Abdel Hamid Hassanin	MSFT116572	4780

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Offic Action Summary	09/755,982	HASSANIN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Le Nguyen	2174

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _____ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 February 2004</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>05 February 2004</u> is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to Amendment A, filed 2/5/04.

2.   Claims 1-23 are pending in this application; and, claims 1, 14 and 18 are independent

claims. This action is made Final.

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found

in a prior Office action.

Drawings

4.   The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they

do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: page 8, line 20:

"monitor 61" of fig. 5.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office

action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held

in abeyance.

Specification

5.   The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) page 15, line 3: "row 140" needs to be changed to column 140, block 140 or row 148.

Appropriate correction is required; and

b) page 20, lines 10-11: the sentence "A renderer renders…while maintaining a truth

table for" appears to be a sentence fragment.

6.   The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they

include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description:

    a) 146, 148 and 150 of fig. 4; and

    b) 69 of fig. 5.

A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the

reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid

abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7.   Claims 1-4, 7-13 and 14-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Burkett et al. ("Burkett", US 6,476,818 B1).

        As per claim 1, Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional property in a

display object the method comprising:

        obtaining an object hierarchy having a root element and one or more child elements,

wherein the object hierarchy defines a logical relationship between each object hierarchy element

(col. 4, lines 14-16);

        associating a directional property for the object hierarchy (col. 5, line 64 through col. 6,

line 2; fig. 6D);

        generating a set of physical coordinates corresponding to a display screen for each

element in the object hierarchy, wherein the physical coordinates correspond to the logical

relationship between the object hierarchy elements (col. 6, lines 26-30; fig. 6D).

As per claims 2-4, Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional property in a display object the method wherein the logical relationship between each display object is a grid layout, a flow layout or an extensible layout (col. 6, lines 8-30).

As per claims 7-10, Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional property in a display object the method comprises associating a directional property for the object hierarchy includes obtaining a directional property from the root element and associating the directional property for each child element and rendering each display object according to the physical coordinates wherein at least one display object includes one or more layout properties, wherein rendering each display object includes rendering layout properties of display objects and wherein rendering the layout properties of display object including rendering the layout properties according the directional property of the object hierarchy (col. 4, lines 14-16; col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 2; col. 6, lines 26-30; col. 10, lines 16-64).

As per claim 11, Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional property in a display object the method wherein some display objects cannot be rendered in at least one directional property (col. 6, line 9-23; fig. 6D), the method further comprising maintaining a truth table indicating whether a display object can be rendered in a direction (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 22-39; figs. 6(D-E); *described and depicted is a truth table showing the value of Boolean expressions used in displaying the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy*).

Claims 12 and 13 are individually similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claims 14 and 15, Burkett teaches a computer-readable medium having computer-executable components for processing a directional property comprising a layout component for accepting an object hierarchy having a root element and one or more child elements defined according to a logical relationship, the layout component operable to generate a set of physical coordinates for the object hierarchy corresponding to the logical relationship and a directional property for the object hierarchy and further comprising a rendering component operable to render object hierarchy according to the physical coordinates and operable to render one or more layout properties of the object hierarchy according to the directional property of the object hierarchy (col. 4, lines 14-16; col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 2; col. 6, lines 26-30; fig. 6D).

As per claim 16 and 17, Burkett teaches a computer-readable medium having computer-executable components for processing a directional property wherein the rendering component includes rendering information to determine whether one or more display objects may be rendered in a specific direction (col. 6, line 9-23; fig. 6D) and wherein the rendering information is maintained in a truth table (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 22-39).

As per claim 18, Burkett teaches a method for processing a direction property in a display object, the method comprising obtaining a display object including a graphical resource wherein the display object includes rendering information to determine whether the graphical resource can be maintained in a specific direction and obtaining a specified directional property specified for the display object, determining whether the display object can be rendered according to the specified directional property (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 22-39; col. 8, line 53 through col. 9, line 8).

As per claims 19 and 20, Burkett teaches a method for processing a direction property in a display object, the method wherein the rendering information includes an original direction of the graphical resource and an indication of whether the graphical resource may be rendered in a different direction and wherein determining whether the display object can be rendered according to the specified directional property includes a comparison of the indication of whether the graphical resource may be rendered in a different direction if the original direction of the graphical resource and the specified directional property are not equal (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 53 through col. 9, line 8).

As per claim 21, Burkett teaches a method for processing a direction property in a display object, the method wherein the comparison is conducted in a truth table (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 22-39).

Claims 22 and 23 are individually similar in scope to claim 18 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burkett et al. ("Berkett", US 6,476,818 B1) in view of Edelman et al. ("Edelman", US 6,442,576 B1).

As per claim 5, Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional property in a display object the method comprising a directional property (col. 9, lines 15-32). Burkett does not explicitly disclose the directional property to be a language reading direction. Edelman teaches a method for processing a directional property of a language reading direction (col. 7, lines 22-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to

include Edelman's teaching of a method for processing a directional property of a language

reading direction to Burkett's method for processing a directional property in a display object the

method comprising a directional property in order to provide users with a process for searching

and replacing items with embedded or nested elements.

As per claim 6, the modified Burkett teaches a method for processing a directional

property in a display object the method comprising a directional property wherein the language

reading direction is a left to right language reading direction (Edelman: col. 7, lines 22-29; *the*

reading direction is processed in a left to right order).

Response to Arguments

9.   Applicant's arguments filed in Amendment A have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant argued the following:

(a) Burkett fails to teach or suggest the association of a directional property for a display

object hierarchy. Moreover, because Burkett does not teach the association of a directional

property to an object hierarchy, it does not teach: "generating a set of physical coordinates

corresponding to a display screen for each element in the object hierarchy, wherein the physical

coordinates correspond to the logical relationship between the object hierarchy elements".

(b) Edelman fails to teach or suggest the generation of physical coordinates for a display

screen incorporating both a logical relationship and a directional property for the display object

hierarchy elements.

(c) Burkett does not teach the use of a truth table in displaying the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy.

(d) Burkett is limited to teaching non-directional layout information including textual alignment information and/or other traditional non-directional rendering information and, therefore, fails to teach or suggest a layout manager that generates physical coordinates for an object hierarchy that generates physical coordinates for an object hierarchy that corresponds to a directional property of the object hierarchy.

The examiner disagrees for the following reasons:

Per (a), Burkett does teach the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy wherein the layout (col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 2) has a vertical directional property (fig. 6D) and generating a set of physical coordinates corresponding to a display screen for each element in the object hierarchy is inherent given that the elements are displayed (col. 6, lines 26-30; fig. 6D).

Per (b), in response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Burkett teaches the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy (col. 4, lines 14-16; col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 2; col. 6, lines 26-30; col. 10, lines 16-64; fig. 6D). The teaching extracted from Edelman is for the feature of processing a directional property of a language reading direction (col. 7, lines 22-29).

Per (c), Burkett teaches the use of a truth table in displaying the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy (col. 6, line 60 through col. 8, line 10; col. 8, line 22-39; figs. 6(D-E); *described and depicted is a truth table showing the value of Boolean expressions used in displaying the association of a directional property for a display object hierarchy*).

Per (d), Burkett teaches generating physical coordinates for an object hierarchy that generates physical coordinates for an object hierarchy that corresponds to a directional property of the object hierarchy (col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 2; col. 6, lines 26-30; figs. 6(D-E)).

Conclusion

10.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquires

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê whose telephone number is **(703) 305-7601**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

LVN
Patent Examiner
April 16, 2004

KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100